Cure for AIDS and Cancer under ISM

268. SHRI K. KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Hindu dated 25th January, 2001 captioned, 'Ayurvedic cure 'AIDS';

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to encourage the Indian Systems of Medicine for development of treatment for AIDS, Cancer, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been claimed that some AIDS patients have been cured by Ayurvedic treatment. The Central Council of Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi has advised the claimant to provide details of studies, achievements, number of patients treated, laboratory investigations carried out, medicines used and their composition to ascertain whether the claims have some basis.

(c) Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) has a proposal to carry out clinical studies on AIDS with Ayurvedic and Siddha drugs. Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) has already undertaken a pilot study to ascertain the effect of Homoeopathic medicines in the clinical management of HIV/AIDS. There is a scheme for providing assistance for conducting extra-mural research by institutions including the area of HIV/AIDS and Cancer. Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha has extended financial support to see the "Effect of Metal based Ayurvedic Formulations on Accute Pro-myclocytic Leukaemia (APML)". The Council is further processing another project to develop and standardise the same drug. Assistance had also been provided for conducting "Primary Study of Cancer in Ayurvedic Prospective" to a medical college in Pune. All India Institute of Medical Sciences has also been provided assistance

for studying "Effect of Breathing techniques and Meditation on normal individual and those with cancer in remission."

Contribution of Punjab and Haryana to PGI, Chandigarh

269. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States of Punjab and Haryana are not contributing towards maintenance cost of 120 and 80 beds to the PGI, Chandigarh;

(b) if so, since when they are not contributing,

(c) what are the arrears due to the PGI, Chandigarh; and

(d) how the Ministry propose to recover this amount from these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The State Governments of Punjab and Haryana are normally contributing towards maintenance cost of 120 beds and 80 beds respectively at Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh. However, both the State Governments owe payment of arrears towards maintenance cost to the Institute. Since 1998-99 no payment has been received from Govt, of Haryana. The amounts due to PGIMER, Chandigarh from Govt, of Haryana and Punjab are given in the Statement *(See* below).

(d) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare advised the Institute to pursue the matter with the State Governments of Punjab and Haryana for recovery of the outstanding amounts. The Institute is pursuing the matter with the Chief Secretaries of both the States to recover the outstanding amounts.